State of
California
Department of

**Consumer
Affairs**

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To Whom It May Concern:

Recently, Governor Schwarzeneggar vetoed Assembly Bill 2810 (Liu, 2006). The veto of this bill means that as of July 1, 2007 the Bureau for Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education (BPPVE) will cease to exist. The statutes that govern the program, the Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education Reform Act, will also cease to exist.

BPPVE regulates and approves certain types of institutions of higher learning and their programs in the State of California. Some schools with programs leading to Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT) licensure will be affected by this veto. The following schools will be affected:

1. Trinity College of Graduate Studies	12. University of Phoenix, Sacramento
2. California Graduate Institute	13. University of Santa Monica
3. Argosy University	14. Antioch University, LA
4. Professional School of Psychology	15. Antioch University, Santa Barbara
5. Ryokan College	16. San Diego University for Integrative Studies
6. Western Institute of Imaginal Studies	17. Santa Barbara Graduate Institute
7. World University of America	18. Southern California University for Professional Studies
8. Institute of Imaginal Studies	19. HIS University
9. Western Seminary	20. Webster University
10. University of Phoenix, San Diego	21. Church of God Theological Seminary
11. Southern California Seminary	

As the law is written now, the Board of Behavioral Sciences would not be allowed to accept degrees earned from these universities towards MFT Intern registration or MFT licensure after July 1, 2007.

The Board recognizes the stress this situation puts on schools and students. At its February meeting, the Board agreed to sponsor urgency legislation to address this issue. The proposed legislation would do two things if adopted into law:

- First, it would allow the Board to recognize degrees from BPPVE approved schools for a limited period of time. The Board would honor the most recent renewal/approval granted to the school until that renewal/approval expires. Renewals/approvals from BPPVE typically last three to five years. Each school has a different expiration date, so students should check with the specific school or BPPVE at (916) 574-7720 for further information on renewal/approval expiration dates currently on file.

- Second, the legislation would allow the Board to recognize degrees granted by universities accredited by any recognized regional accrediting bodies within the United States. Current law only allows the Board to accept accreditation from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), which accredits schools in California and other western states. Comparable accrediting bodies exist in other regions of the United States and perform similar accrediting services. Several approved schools in California are satellite campuses for schools that hold regional accreditations elsewhere in the United States. These schools include:

1. Argosy University	5. University of Phoenix, Sacramento
2. Western Seminary	6. Antioch University, LA
3. University of Phoenix, San Diego	7. Antioch University, Santa Barbara
4. Webster University	8.Church of God Theological Seminary

This legislation (to be included in Assembly Bill 1525) would be a temporary solution. Senate Bill 823 (Perata) has been introduced and is likely to contain the larger reform proposal being negotiated by the Governor, Legislature, and stakeholders.

The sunset of BPPVE creates a delicate situation for many parties, including the Board, its constituents, students, and schools. The Board cannot predict what will occur in the future with the Bureau or the urgency legislation. The Board assures you that as soon as more information on this topic becomes available, the Board will share it with its constituents and potential licensees and registrants. Continue to monitor the Board's website for more updates on this issue.